



# State of Louisiana

## Department of Environmental Quality



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### ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

#### EPA DONATES GAS CANS FOR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIAL DAY

BATON ROUGE – The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Greater Baton Rouge Hazardous Materials Collection Day will be held, Saturday, April 9th at Memorial Stadium. Citizens can bring household hazardous material and leftover paint to the stadium between 8 a.m. and noon. Residents should enter the drop-off area from Scenic Highway at Foss Street. The collection day is a collaborative effort between The Dow Chemical Company, DEQ, City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish. .

There will be something new at the collection day this year. The Environmental Protection Agency has donated more than 900 environmentally friendly ventless gas cans which will be given out, one per car, as long as they last. These gas cans help reduce the formation of ozone, reduce or prevent spills and close automatically when not in use. They are a benefit to the air and the environment.

DEQ employees have volunteered to help with HHMD since 1985 when DEQ initiated the program. In 1990, in an attempt to recycle a potential waste, DEQ initiated a paint swap during the event. This year the recycled paint will not be available at the HHMD event, but will be transferred and made available through the Habitat for Humanity ReStore at 4301 Airline Highway for a modest fee. No blended paint will be available at the site.

Materials to be collected at HHMD include electronics, computer hardware, paint, batteries, cleaning solvents, lawn and garden products and more. Unacceptable materials include ammunition, non-residential waste, televisions, appliances, furniture and radioactive devices.

“Last year we reclaimed more than 575 gallons of paint and collected more than 180 thousand pounds of household hazardous material which was diverted from the parish landfill” said Karen Fisher-Brasher, DEQ Recycling Supervisor. “This is an example of private industry, the state, the parish and, most importantly, the public working together to protect the environment.”

For more information about recycling, paint disposal and common potentially hazardous materials in the home, go to the DEQ website <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/assistance/recycling>.